(5) No definite information is available.
(6) The Assistant Engineer.
(7) 14th Mithunam 1103.
(8) Anicut readings are not generally taken during closure periods.
(9) Yes, once.
(10) No.
(11) The Irrigation Overseer.

Loans to the Trichur and Ernakulam Municipalities]

67. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(1) what was the amount lent to the Trichur Municipality and on what terms;
(2) has the Municipality repaid the amount;
(3) if not the whole, how much was paid back;
(4) what about the balance;
(5) for what purpose was the amount lent;
(6) how far was it carried out;
(7) whether there is any truth in the statement appearing in the papers that the Government have lent or are under contemplation to lend Rs. 50,000 to the Ernakulam Municipality?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(1) Advances and loans outstanding are:—

(a) An advance of Rs. 15,000 in 1097 for disbursement to parties for tiling houses. This was repayable in 6 annual instalments—interest on the loan being 2 per cent payable annually.

(b) A loan of Rs. 42,128-0-8 for general works of Town Improvement repayable in 20 years the rate of interest being 5 per cent payable half-yearly.

(2) Not fully.

(3) Out of the first a sum of Rs. 13,495 has been paid and a sum of Rs. 14,512-0-8 towards the second.

(4) It has to be repaid.

(5) The advance was for tiling houses and the loan was for general Town Improvement.

(6) Fully carried out.

(7) Yes. A loan of Rs. 50,000 has been sanctioned to the Ernakulam Municipality.

Late Salt Contractor Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar.

68. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether orders were passed on the petitions of Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar, the late salt contractor of the State, submitted to the Government on (1) 5th Makaram 1100, (2) 1st Dhanu 1100, (3) 10th Medam 1100 and (4) 29th Karkadagam

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1100 referred to in the answer to question No. 134 of the Legislative Session of 1103 ; if so, what are the orders ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—No petition was received on 5th Makaram 1100. Orders have not been passed on the others.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what is the cause of this long delay to pass orders on these petitions ? The first petition was put in on 1st Dhanu 1100. It is more than three years.

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—I cannot say now. I am unable to say it now.

Liquor Shops.

69. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the total number of liquor shops, toddy shops and foreign liquor shops, licensed in the Cochin State and existing on the 1st of Mithunam 1103 ;

(2) the number of such shops that are allowed in the year 1104 ;

(3) the total quantity of arrack supplied to the shops from the distillery in 1103 up to the 1st of Mithunam 1103, and (a) to the shops, and (b) to others whether inside or outside the State ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—(1) and (2).

	1103.	1104.
Toddy shops	429	418
Arrack shops	230	223
Foreign liquor shops	47	The No. cannot be specified now

(3) Quantity of arrack issued to shops from the distillery up to 1st Mithunam 1103—4428·45 Proof Gallons..

Quantity of arrack issued to depots 13941·2 Proof Gallons.

Do. Ernakulam Warehouse (underbond)—16848·4 do.

Within the State arrack is not issued to any person other than the depot or the shop licensee, and outside the State to none.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, may I know whether this reduction in the number of toddy and arrack shops is based on any principle ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—The only principle is we tried to see how far we can reduce the number of shops without introducing illicit practices. In a way we inquire into the needs of the locality and the demand there and then gradually

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